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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Mennie et al.

Group Art Unit: 3746

Serial No.: 10/669,775

Examiner: Charles Grant Freay

Filed: September 24, 2003

Attorney Docket: M03B179

Title: Vacuum Pumping System

Mail Stop Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and every writing referred to herein as being enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 14, 2006.
 (Date)

Betty Lee

Printed name of person signing this certificate

Betty Lee

Signature of person mailing

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 31, 2006, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 8.